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WORLD CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Preparatory Committee
First session
Geneva, 9-13 September 1991
Items 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the agenda

AGENDA, RULES OF PROCEDURE, DATES, DURATION, VENUE OF
AND PARTICIPATION AT THE WORLD CONFERENCE

PREPARATIONS FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS
PREPARATIONS AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL, THE REGIONAL
LEVEL AND THE NATIONAL LEVEL

STUDIES AND OTHER DOCUMENTATION FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE

ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF FUTURE SESSIONS OF THE
PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

Letter dated 11 September 1991 from the head of delegation of
the United States of America to the Under-Secretary-General
for Human Rights

As you know, my Government supports your efforts to strengthen the contribution of the Centre for Human Rights to improving implementation of human rights standards everywhere in the world. To this end, my statement on 10 September to the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights endorsed your efforts to gain additional financial support for the United Nations human rights programme.

I also endorsed the relationship between this goal and responsible financial planning for the World Conference. In this context, my delegation has prepared a possible standard for evaluating all proposals for programmes and activities in the preparatory process for the World Conference.

A major goal of the World Conference must be to strengthen those functions of the Centre for Human Rights that bring a sense of relief to those whose human rights are abused daily. I believe that the following criteria may be of use to you, to the staff of the Centre for Human Rights and to Member States of the United Nations in defining priorities to achieve that goal.

- There should be a transparent process, open to participation by all concerned States, for preparation of recommendations to the Preparatory Committee regarding all World Conference programmes or activities with significant financial consequences, including the number and duration of future Preparatory Committee meetings.
- There must be a clear justification for each such proposed programme or activity. It must show how the programme or activity contributes to the objectives set out in General Assembly resolution 45/155.
- These programmes and activities should be funded within the parameters of paragraph 7 of resolution 45/155.

(Signed): J. Kenneth Blackwell
Head of delegation
